

Archie
★ 65TH ★
ANNIVERSARY

159 US \$2.25

Anniversary 2006
15th
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
SEGA

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



CAN
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
SURVIVE THE THREAT
DESIGNED BY THOSE
WHO KNOW HIM
BEST?

SYSTEM REBOOT

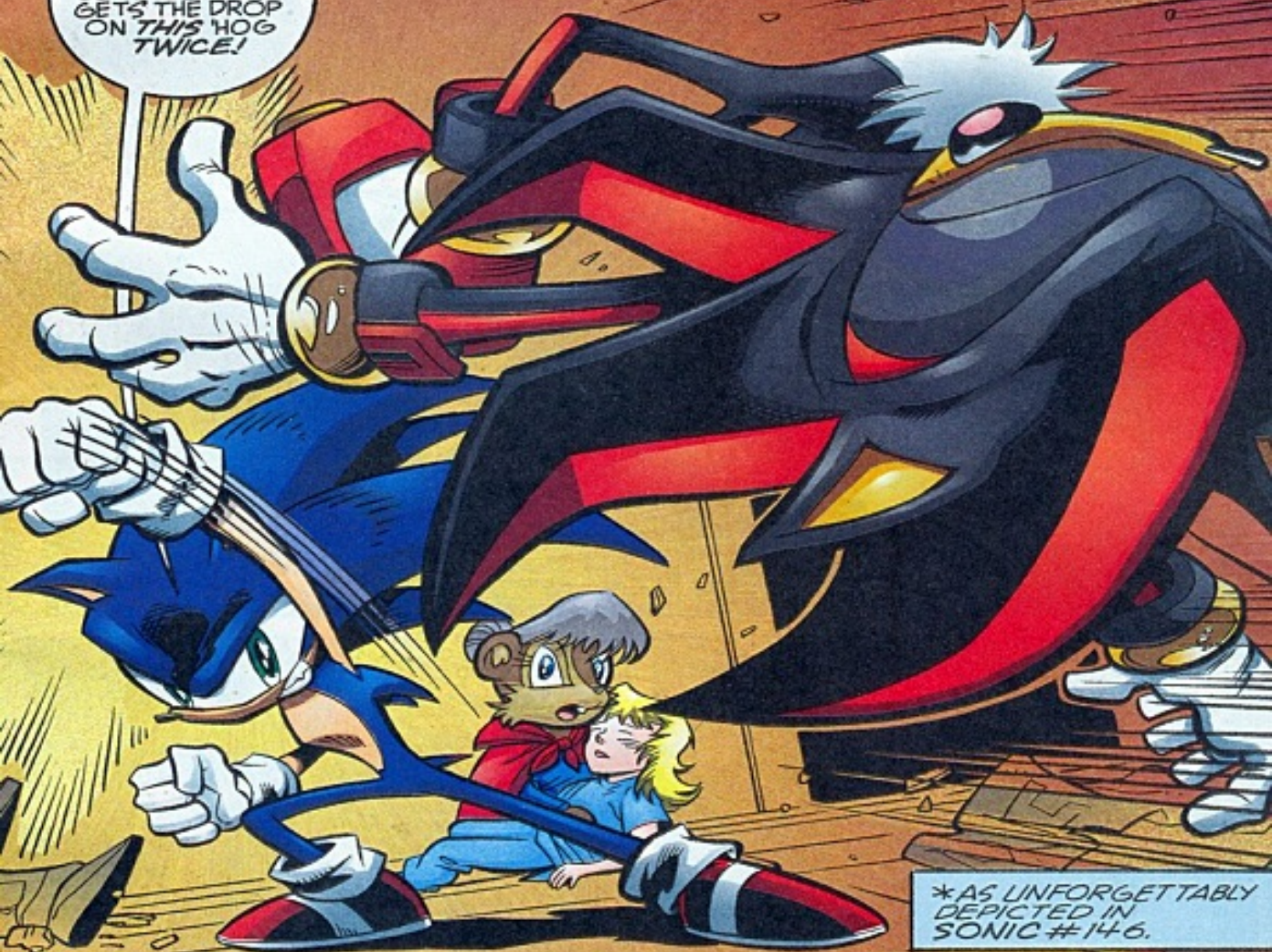
IF YOU MISSED OUR LAST TWO
ISSUES, JUST BUCKLE UP FOR
THE ACTION AND WE'LL EXPLAIN
AS WE GO ALONG!

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SPECIAL THANKS
TO ROBERT LEFFLER
AND DYNA LOPEZ
AT SEGA LICENSING

YOU GOT
YOUR LICKS IN
LAST TIME--*
BUT NOBODY
GETS THE DROP
ON THIS HOG
TWICE!



*AS UNFORGETTABLY
DEPICTED IN
SONIC #146.



READY TO
CALL IT A
DAY?



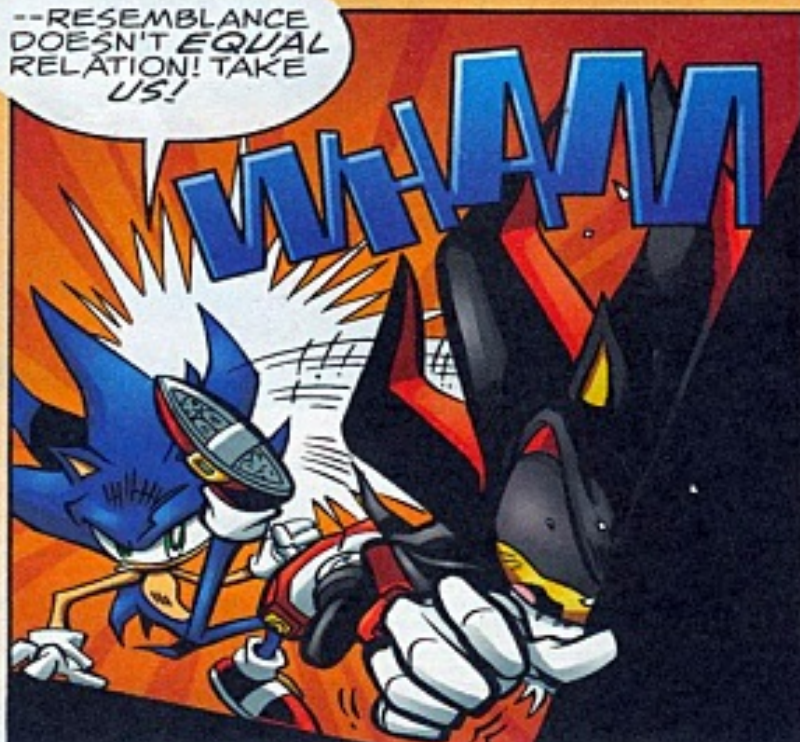
I HAVEN'T
EVEN
STARTED,
HEDGEHOG!

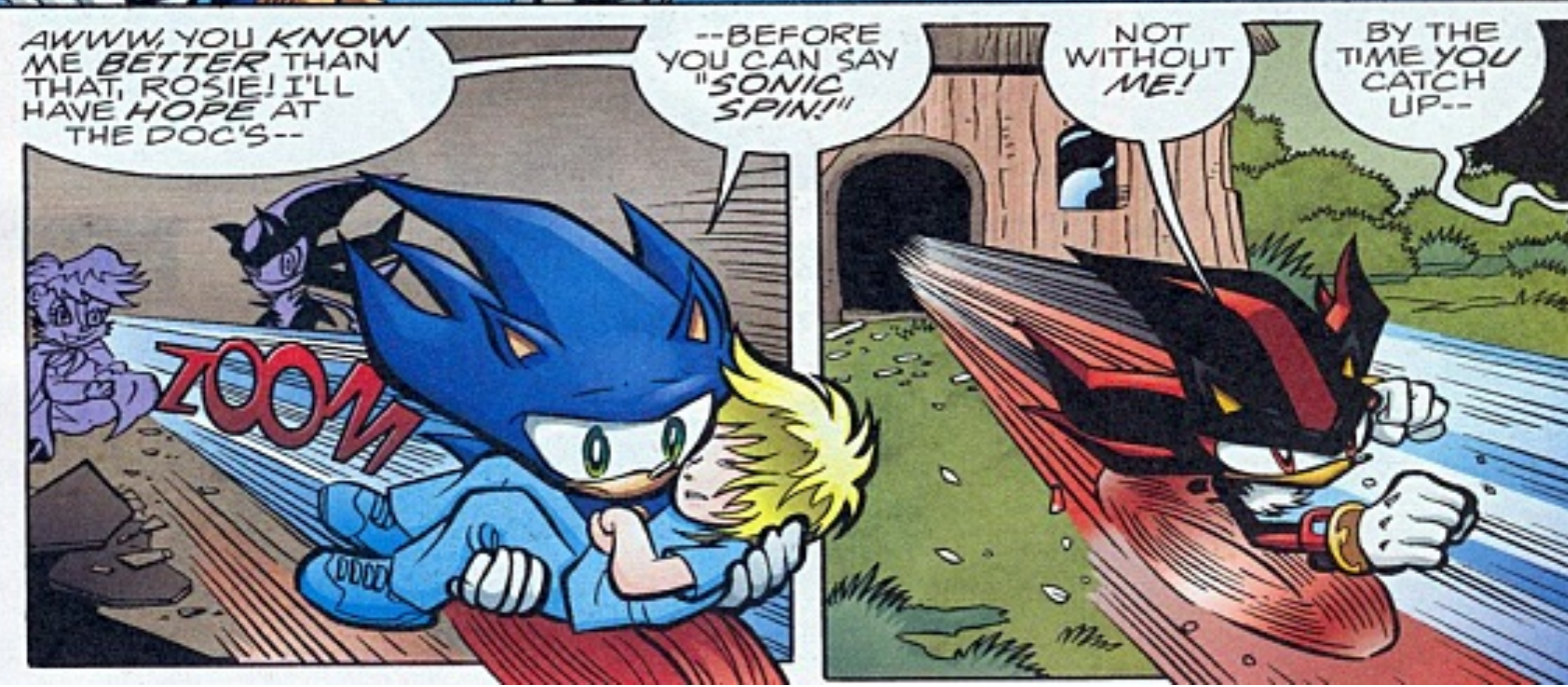
IN CASE
YOU HADN'T
NOTICED, PAL
--I'M NOT ONE
OF THE SHINY
METALLIC
MODELS
TRASHING
EVERYTHING
IN SIGHT!

THEN HOW ELSE
TO EXPLAIN THEIR
VERY *LIKE*NESS OF
YOU--WHICH IMPLIES
AT LEAST SOME
CONNECTION!

YEAH,
WELL--

--RESEMBLANCE
DOESN'T *EQUAL*
RELATION! TAKE
US!





"--SHE'LL BE WITH
DOC AT THE CASTLE!..."

OUTER SHELL
CONSTRUCTED OF A
SPECIAL IRON-
TITANIUM ALLOY!
ITS HARDWARE WOULD
BE STATE-OF-THE-ART,
WERE IT NOT FOR THE
NANITES! EXACTLY
ONE HUNDRED
WERE BUILT TO
PROTECT THE
KINGDOM!

SO NATURALLY,
WE DESIGNED
THE METAL SONIC
TROOPERS IN
THE IMAGE OF
OUR GREATEST
WARRIOR--
WHOM WE
BELIEVED HAD
FALLEN IN THE
LINE OF DUTY!*



IT WASN'T YOUR IDEA
INITIALLY, SIR! YOU HAVE
NOTHING AT ALL TO
BE ASHAMED OF!



BUT WE
CREATED THEM
--AND NOW WE
HAVE TO
DEFEND
AGAINST
THEM!

IF I'VE
LEARNED
ANYTHING
AT ALL FROM
YOU--



* SIR CHARLES
IS REFERRING
TO EVENTS
DEPICTED
IN SONIC
#125

"--IT'S NOT THE INVENTION
THAT CAUSES THE PROBLEM,
BUT THE PURPOSE FOR
WHICH THE OPERATOR
UTILIZES IT."

LOOK AT THEM!!!
THE MOST FEARSOME
DESTRUCTIVE FORCE YET
UNLEASHED ON THE
PLANET--

--AND I HAD
NOTHING TO DO
WITH IT!

HOW
CAN THIS
BE?

YET THEY DESTROYED MY COMMAND
CENTER*--AND WHATEVER SOURCE
ACTIVATED THEM ALSO COMPROM-
ISED MY SYSTEM SAFEGUARDS!**

*LAST ISSUE,
**SONIC # 157.

NOW THEY'RE
INVADING KNOT-
HOLE--WREAKING
HAVOC ON MY
MOST HATED
OF ENEMIES!

ASTOUNDING!

SUCH DISREGARD
FOR LIFE, LIMB, AND
PROPERTY! WHAT
SUPREME
IRONY--

--THAT I, WHO
MADE ALL OTHERS
TREMBLE, SHOULD
NOW BE REDUCED
TO THEIR LEVEL--

"--DEPENDENT
UPON THAT
BLASTED HEDGE-
HOG TO SAVE THE
DAY..."

I WAS CREATED
FOR A PURPOSE
STILL UNKNOWN
TO ME!

WHAT I DO
KNOW IS THERE
HAVE BEEN ONLY
TWO SENTIENTS
WHO HAVE EVER
EXPRESSED
COMPASSION
FOR ME!

I FAILED
LONG AGO
TO SAVE
MARIA---*

*AS SADLY
RECORDED IN
SONIC # 98.

--BUT SURELY
THERE IS
SOMETHING
I CAN DO
TO SAVE
HOPE!!!

HEY!!!

THOUGH I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
WHAT
ENABLES
ME TO
CREATE THE
PORTAL--

"--AT THIS
MOMENT, THAT IS
THE LEAST OF MY
CONCERNS!"

...CHAOS
CONTROL!?!

MEANWHILE, BACK
AT CASTLE ACORN--
FIVE MINUTES
AGO...

ANY SIGN OF
THE INVADERS,
COMMANDER
D'COOLETTE?

EVERYONE
TO THEIR
STATIONS,
MATES!

NOT YET, SIRE!
CONSIDERING
THE TRACKING
SYSTEM
SHOWS THEM
MOVING TRES FAST
ALA SONIC--

--THE REAL
MYSTERY IS WHY
THEY HAD YET
TO BE SIGHTED!
WHY THE
DELAY?

YOU SPOKE
TOO SOON,
COMMANDER!

THERE THEY ARE--
TEARING THROUGH
KNOTHOLE CENTER
ITSELF!

SO MUCH
FOR THE
JAMMING
FAIL-
SAFES!

WHAT
TH--?!!

BTOOM!!

SONIC!

HOW DO I
EXPLAIN TO
HIM THAT
FATHER
MEANT
WELL?

SKREECH!!

AND
SHADOW!
BUT HOW--
?!

YOU!!!
WE NEED
THE DOC
--AND
FAST!!!

HAND HER OVER
TO MY MEDICS,
SON! WE'LL SEE
THAT THE LITTLE
MISS GETS REAL
GOOD CARE!

SEE THAT
SHE DOES,
DOCTOR--

QUACK... HORATIO
QUACK! PERSONAL
PHYSICIAN TO THE
KING HIMSELF, IF
THAT'S ANY
COMFORT!

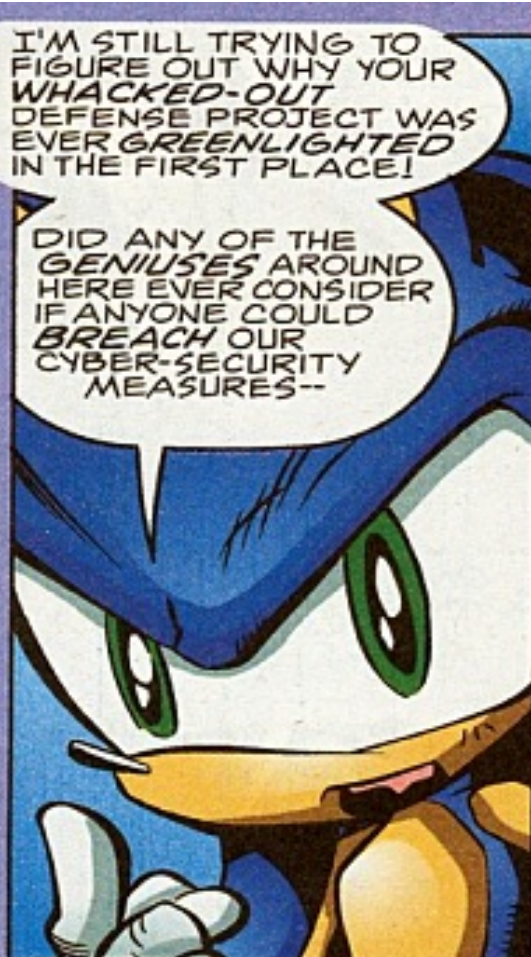
GOOD ENOUGH!
NOW WHAT?

THAT'S WHAT
I AIM TO
FIND OUT!



SONIC! THANK THE SOURCE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

THAT'S ABOUT ALL I'LL BE THANKFUL FOR!



I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY YOUR WHACKED-OUT DEFENSE PROJECT WAS EVER GREENLIGHTED IN THE FIRST PLACE!

DID ANY OF THE GENIUSES AROUND HERE EVER CONSIDER IF ANYONE COULD BREACH OUR CYBER-SECURITY MEASURES--



--SINCE OL' ROBO-BUTT WOULD BE JUST THE MEGALO-MANIAC TO DO SO?!

JUST BECAUSE HE CREATED METAL SONIC MANY TIMES OVER DOESN'T MEAN HE OWNS THE PATENT!

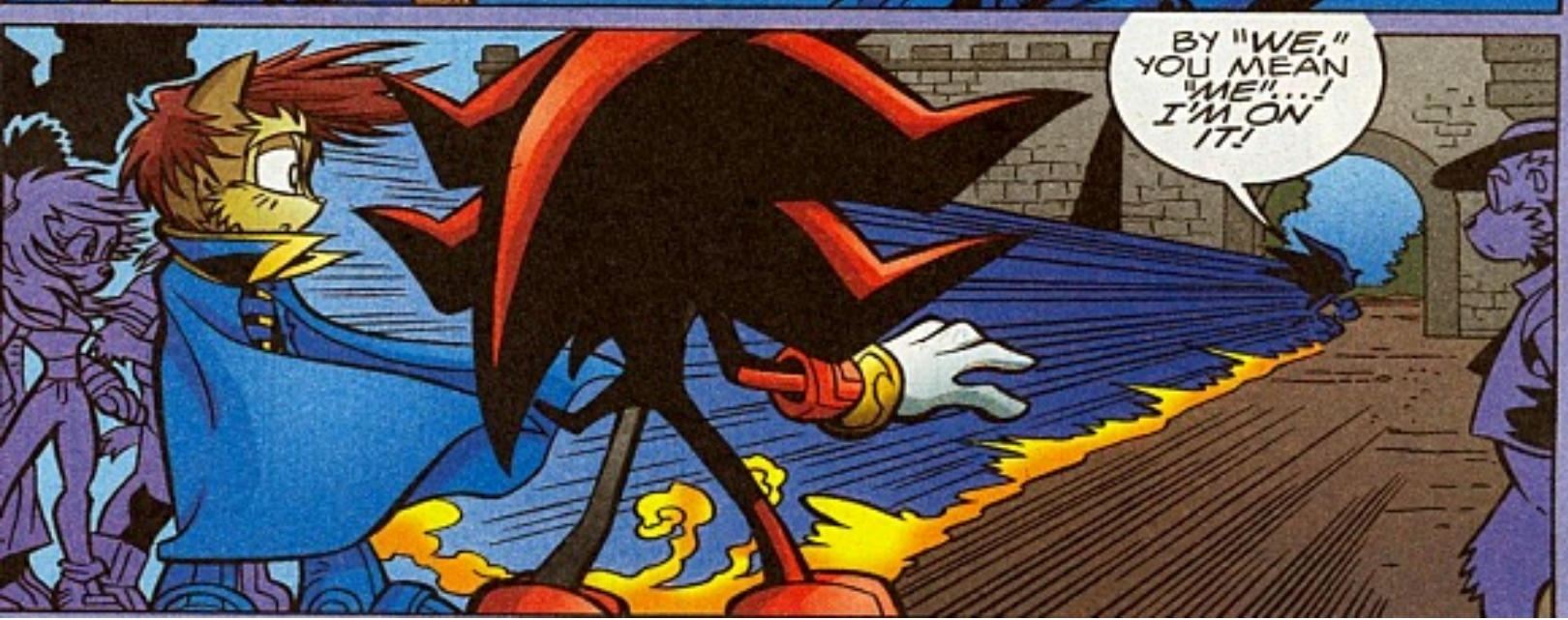


AND IT DOESN'T GIVE ANYONE ELSE THE RIGHT TO INVOLVE ME IN THEIR CRACKPOT SCHEMES!

I WASN'T THE ONE WHO AUTHORIZED THE PROJECT!

WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT LATER!

WE HAVE MORE URGENT MATTERS TO ATTEND!



BY "WE," YOU MEAN "ME"...! I'M ON IT!



THIS HERO-JAZZ CAN BE A PAIN AT TIMES! JUST ONCE, I'D LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE ELSE LEAD THE CHARGE!



AWW, WHO AM I KIDDING?

WHO ELSE COULD SMACK DOWN REPLICAS OF THE REAL DEAL--

--OTHER THAN THE REAL DEAL?



ONE BLUE BLUR COMING THROUGH!!! YOU SIMULATED-SONICS ARE GOING DOWN!

KLANG!
KLANG!



CORRECTION: IT IS YOU WHO FACES ELIMINATION--



--ALONG WITH ANY WHO THREATEN THE KINGDOM'S EXISTENCE!

WHICH KINGDOM IS THAT? LAST I HEARD, THIS IS ONE YOU'RE PROGRAMMED TO PROTECT!



IMPOSSIBLE! OUR PROGRAMMING IS IMPERVIOUS TO TAMPERING!

SAYS YOU--



CAN'T MESS AROUND--

ZOOOOO



--AS THERE'RE WAY TOO MANY OF THEM TO GO ONE-ON-ONE WITH!



NO TELLING IF THIS'LL WORK--



--MAYBE SOMETHING NEW WILL THROW THEM OFF!

WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW?

--IF THIS
SCRAMBLES
THEIR
CIRCUITS
ENOUGH--

--ALONG
WITH
THE
FALL--

--THAT
MAY BE
ENOUGH--

UGH!

WE WERE
MODELLED
TO SERVE IN
YOUR STEAD
--AND YET
YOU ATTACK
US!

YEAH--GASP--
MUST BE THOSE
MISPLACED
PRIORITIES OF
YOURS!

THEY'RE
OVERWHELMING
SONIC! THOUGH
WE'VE HAD OUR
DIFFERENCES--

--I CANNOT
ALLOW HIM
TO FALL
THIS WAY!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

ALL I DID WAS RAISE MY HAND--

--AND NOW ALL ARE DEMOBILIZED!

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

CHAOS CONTROL?

AND YOU ARE ...?

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA OF THE CHAOTIX. YOU DON'T NEED ANY INTRODUCTION, SHADOW.

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF CHAOS CONTROL, KNUCKLES. I REQUIRE A CHAOS EMERALD TO PERFORM THAT TECHNIQUE.

NOT IF YOU DREW THE POWER FROM THE CHAOS FORCE.

BUT ONLY US GUARDIANS HAVE EVER BEEN ABLE TO CONTROL SOME OF THAT POWER.

I AM THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM FOR SURE.

CAN WE TURN DOWN THE VOLUME? OOH, MY HEAD...

FINISHED RESTING, BLUE HEDGEHOG?

SHUT UP, FAKER.



--I'D LIKE TO
AWARD YOU
OUR MEDAL OF
HONOR FOR
SERVICES
RENDERED ABOVE
AND BEYOND THE
CALL OF
DUTY!



I COULDN'T
HAVE TAKEN
THEM ALL OUT,
YOUR HIGHNESS!
THERE MUST HAVE
BEEN AT LEAST--

NONSENSE! SIR CHARLES'S VIDEO LOGS
HAVE A COMPLETE RECORD OF YOUR
ACTIONS! FURTHERMORE, YOU ARE NOW
HEREBY ASSIGNED THE RANK OF
GENTLEMAN-AT-ARMS, ALONG
WITH ALL ITS ATTENDANT
OBLIGATIONS AND
PRIVILEGES!



I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT THAT
MEANS LATER! RIGHT NOW,
I BELIEVE CELEBRATIONS
ARE IN ORDER! CONGRAT-
ULATIONS, SONIC!



WELL, I--I'VE NO
CLUE WHAT TO
SAY--

I GUESS YOU
KNOW WHAT
THIS MEANS...



...DON'T
YOU,
HON?

YES, HARD
AS IT IS TO
ADMIT!

HE'S NOT OUR
LITTLE ONE
ANYMORE!

I KNOW!
HE'S OUR
LITTLE
ONE-AT-
ARMS!



SO WHO WANTS TO
PARTY?!!!!



ELSEWHERE, AT
THAT SAME
MOMENT...





GOOD
MORNING,
FATHER.

BAH!
WHAT'S SO
GOOD ABOUT
IT?

COME TO
THINK OF IT, I CAN'T
RECALL A GOOD
MORNING WITHIN
RECENT MEMORY!

YOUR RESEARCH
CONTINUES AND YOUR
LIEUTENANTS CONTINUE
MAINTAINING YOUR
INFRASTRUCTURE.

MY
LIEUTENANTS?!!

SNIVELING WORMS
LOOKING TO STAB ME
IN THE BACK AT THE
FIRST CHANCE --

-- JUST LIKE THAT
TREACHEROUS
WEASEL,
SNIVELY!!!

CAN YOU
IMAGINE?
BETRAYING ME
TO MY WORST
ENEMY IN ALL
THE WORLD?!

THE DESPICABLE DR. ROBOTNIK INSIDIOUS

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
KEN PENDERS
COLORED BY JOSH AND AIMEE RAY

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE
THAT AN EXAMPLE SHOULD
BE MADE TO ENSURE THE
CONTINUING LOYALTY OF
THOSE STILL SERVING YOU?





BEYOND QUESTION -- -- AND PAINFULLY SO!

BUT THE ONE I DESIRE ABOVE ALL TO SEE THE *UTMOST EXCRUTIATING PUNISHMENT* INFLECTED UPON IS CURRENTLY BEYOND MY REACH!



THE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS OTHERWISE, FATHER.

PERHAPS THIS VISUAL LOG OF EXPERIMENT X-51 WILL REFRESH YOUR MEMORY.

AHH, YES! I DIDN'T REALIZE RECREATING METAL SONIC COULD GET SO OUT OF HAND!



AS YOU CAN SEE, A SAMPLE OF NANITES WAS DRAWN FOR EXAMINATION. *

* VISUAL LOG SEQUENCES OF EVENTS AS SEEN IN SONIC #152.

TURNABOUT CAN ALSO BE FAIR PLAY, EVEN WHEN UNINTENTIONAL.

THIS VIDEO STREAM WAS RECEIVED WHEN THE NANITES WERE TRANSMITTING TO THEIR OWN KIND ELSEWHERE.



YOU MEAN THEY COMMUNICATE AMONGST EACH OTHER DESPITE WHATEVER DISTANCE OF SEPARATION?



EGADS! THOSE FOOLS CAN NOW ACCESS MY TECHNOLOGY!

IT'S HARD ENOUGH STAYING AHEAD WITHOUT HANDING OVER PROPRIETARY INFORMATION ON A PLATTER!

AFFIRMATIVE.

NOT EVEN A RADICAL CHANGE OF ENVIRONMENT COULD DISRUPT THE SIGNAL.



FREEZE FRAME THE AERIAL ACROBATICS!

SINCE WHEN COULD NANITES DEFY GRAVITY?

JET ENGINES ARE BUT ONE OUT OF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF CONFIGURATIONS THE NANITES ARE CAPABLE OF.

AFFIRMATIVE.

NOW SWITCHING TO REAL-TIME TRANSMISSION.

SO THE *SAMPLEROTOR* EXTRACTED IS NOW LINKED TO THE TURTLE *SYMBIOTICALLY*?

A CORRIDOR!!

WHY ON MOBIUS WOULD I BE INTERESTED IN THAT?!!

IT'S WHERE THE CORRIDOR LEADS TO THAT MAY INTEREST YOU.

JUST PRESS YOUR PALM DOWN ON THE *SCANNER* HERE WHILE LOOKING STRAIGHT AHEAD INTO THE CAMERA IN FRONT OF YOU, TOMMY!

AUDIO ON.

SIR CHARLES AND HIS BROTHER JULES!

WHAT COULD THEY BE UP TO? CAN WE GET SOUND?

"WHAT JUST HAPPENED, A.D.A.M.? I DON'T UNDERSTAND."

"THE COMPUTER CONSOLE BEING A NATURAL SOURCE OF RAW MATERIALS ENABLING THE NANITES TO MULTIPLY AND GROW."

"I TRANSMITTED A SIGNAL, FATHER, TRIGGERING A GROWTH SPURT IN THE NANITES."

"BUT FOR WHAT PURPOSE?!"

AHA!!!

HOW
BRILLIANT!!!
HOW UTTERLY
DEVIOUS!!!

YOU'RE ABLE TO
COMMUNICATE
WITH THE NANITES,
AND THUS MANIPU-
LATE THEM TO DO
MY BIDDING!!

"WITH NONE OF THE KING'S DUPES
ANY THE WISER! I LOVE IT!!!"

IS THERE A
PROBLEM,
JULES?

I COULD'VE SWORN
THE CALIBRATION
WAS A BIT OFF ON
THE RETINA SCAN --

-- BUT I MAY
HAVE BEEN
MISTAKEN!

THAT'S A RELIEF!
WE'VE HAD ENOUGH
SETBACKS WITH THIS
PROJECT AS IT IS!

SO THE NANITES
HAVE INFILTRATED
THE ROBOTICIZED
HEDGEHOG'S
SYSTEM?

AFFIRMATIVE.

NEXT!
STEP RIGHT
UP, BUNNIE!

JUST PLACE YOUR
PALM FACE DOWN
ON THE GLASS
PLATE!

WILL THIS NEW
SECURITY SYSTEM REALLY
PROVIDE PROTECTION
AGAINST OUAH ENEMIES?

"BEYOND A
DOUBT!"

SUCH
SWEETNESS!
SUCH FAITH!

WHO COULD
POSSIBLY
BETRAY SUCH
A TRUSTING
YOUNG SOUL?

THEN SHE IS NOT TO BE INFILTRATED?

ON THE
CONTRARY,
A.D.A.M.!

SHE'LL MAKE A
WONDERFUL *AGENT*
WHEN THE TIME IS
RIGHT! SEE TO IT!

THIS IS ALMOST
TOO EASY! LIKE
TAKING CANDY
FROM *SNIVELY*!

YOU'RE CERTAIN
WE'RE NOT
DEPLETING OUR
SUPPLY OF
NANITES?

NEGATIVE. THE MICROCHIPS
AND ELECTRICAL CHARGES FROM
THE MAIN CONSOLE PROVIDE
MORE THAN ENOUGH
SUSTENANCE FOR THE NANITES.

OF ALL THE
@#&%!\$ -- !!

IF YOU MESSED
THIS ONE UP,
A.D.A.M., I'LL
REPROGRAM YOU
INTO A *STEMBOLT*
REPLICATOR!

WAIT! THE RAB-BOT
SEEMS TO BE GETTING
WOODY! THIS COULD BE
A *PROBLEM*!

DON'T WORRY,
SIR CHARLES!
I'LL BE ALL
RIGHT!

WHO SAYS ALL
NEWS IS *BAD*
NEWS?

I CAN'T
WAIT TO
SEE *WHO'S*
UP NEXT!

NOW WE'RE
TALKING!!!

BY THE TIME I'M
DONE WITH *HIM*, IT'LL
GIVE *NEW* MEANING TO
THE WORD "*TWISTED*"!

UNFORTUNATELY, THE HEDGEHOG IS ORGANIC AND NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE NANITES--

D'OH!

THEN HOW DO YOU *EXPLAIN* THE NANITES ON THAT *BLASTED TURTLE*?

-- WHEREAS THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE SHELL IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE NANITES.

AS THE HEDGEHOG OFFERED NO SUCH COMPATIBILITY, OUR NEXT SUBJECT MORE THAN MEETS THE MINIMUM REQUIRED STANDARDS.

NO KIDDING!

THE *PRINCESS* RELIES HEAVILY ON THAT *PORTABLE MAINFRAME*!

DON'T SPARE THE *LITTLE BUGGERS* ON *THIS ONE*, A.D.A.M.!

"YES! EXCELLENT, A.D.A.M.!"

THE PLAN IS PERFECT! FINALLY...

I'M BACK IN BUSINESS!!!

I'LL NOW KNOW *EVERYTHING* THEY DO AND SAY --

-- AND WHEN THEY *LEAST* EXPECT IT, THAT'S THE TIME I'LL STRIKE!

HAHAHAHA